



Australian Government

AHCCSW308 Apply cultural significance to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites and landscapes

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 9.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to determine theoretical and practical concepts of cultural significance in relation to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites and landscapes. Cultural landscapes and on Country refer to the land, waterways and the sea.

The unit applies to those who are working on Country and assessing cultural significance in landscapes on Country. The unit applies to working with lore/law men and women either as an autonomous sites worker or under the appropriate supervision and Cultural Authority of Traditional Owners and Elders for specific Country. The unit is also applicable to the work of repatriation workers and anthropologists. An explanation of the differences between lore and law and why both are important is available in the Implementation Guide.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

The prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- AHCCSW302 Relate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culture to sites work.

Note the following chain of prerequisites that also applies to this unit.

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
AHCCSW302 Relate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culture to sites work	AHCOCM303 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols

Unit Sector

Cultural Sites Work (CSW)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Determine cultural significance	1.1 Ensure cultural Knowledge Holders inform the decision-making process to determine the cultural significance of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites and places 1.2 Acknowledge the determination of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the primary source, and owners of information about the cultural significance of a particular site and landscape 1.3 Seek permission from appropriate local cultural Knowledge Holders and/or Cultural Authority to collect and share cultural knowledge 1.4 Acknowledge and respect traditional knowledge and practices in managing Country and environment 1.5 Investigate and record Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander history and beliefs embedded in a place of cultural significance 1.6 Investigate and record the embodiment of cultural significance in the place
2. Conduct a significance assessment on an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander site	2.1 Determine the difference between an assessment of cultural significance and a statement of cultural significance in consultation with stakeholders 2.2 Consult with colleagues and experts to identify factors that may impact on the assessment, and incorporate them into planning work 2.3 Collect information relevant to the assessment of cultural significance in collaboration with relevant experts and/or Cultural Authorities 2.4 Assess the cultural significance of the site in accordance with the Burra Charter guidelines and legislative requirements 2.5 Prepare a statement of cultural significance consistent with the assessment findings, in collaboration with relevant experts in Community, and/or Cultural Authorities and legislative requirements 2.6 Seek feedback from colleagues and stakeholders on statement of significance

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	Interpret key information from a range of sources
Oral communication	Use culturally appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCCSW308 Apply cultural significance to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites and landscapes	AHCASW308 Apply cultural significance to Aboriginal sites and landscapes	Title changed Application updated Elements and Performance Criteria revised for clarity Foundation Skills added Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions updated	Not equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCCSW308 Apply cultural significance to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites and landscapes

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has applied cultural significance to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites and landscapes at least once and has:

- determined theoretical and practical concepts of cultural significance in relation to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites and landscapes
- identified appropriate Cultural Authorities for a Community, place or for a site
- collaborated with relevant experts to complete an assessment of cultural significance
- adhered to Burra Charter process and guidelines
- identified cultural information, material and expression appropriate to be shared
- identified groups and individuals to be consulted in relation to Owners or Custodians of cultural and Community knowledge, information and material
- recognised factors that may impact on the assessment, including artefacts and stone objects on site and geological and geographical features of the landscape.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander history, cultural values and interpersonal and Community protocols
- local Cultural Authority or Authorities who can advise on sites and landscapes
- authentic and authoritative sources for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural information, material and expression able to be accessed and shared
- key principles of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property
- the embodiment of cultural significance, including:
 - the geographical and geological features
 - artefacts and stone objects

- land use, associations, meanings, records
- related places and related objects
- the role and prominence of the Burra Charter in the culture and heritage sector in Australia
- the Burra Charter definition of significance
- geographic and geological identification features of the cultural landscape
- artefacts and stone objects identification
- key concepts of Cultural and Heritage legislation or National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) legislation relevant to own role.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated on Country and/or within an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- specifications:
 - specific legislation/codes of practice relevant to the application of cultural significance
- relationships:
 - local Community Elders and/or Custodians.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. In addition, the following specific assessor requirements apply to this unit:

- Assessment must be undertaken by a workplace assessor who has expertise in this unit of competency and who is:

an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elder and/or Custodian or:

- accompanied by, and/or in communication with, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who is a recognised member of the community with experience and knowledge of local cultural protocols.

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